Marine Life Protection Act Initiative



North Coast Marine Protected Area Planning Process, Timeline and Deliverables

Presentation to the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group February 8, 2010 • Eureka, California

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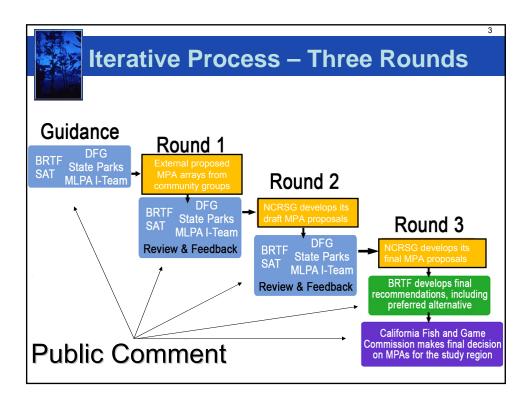


Key Role of NCRSG

 Create multiple alternative marine protected area (MPA) proposals that consider the entire study region

- Consider existing MPAs
- Work with fellow MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group (NCRSG) members
- Contribute local knowledge
- Reach out to broader constituencies

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Three Round Iterative Process

- Round 1 External MPA arrays
 - Developed by community groups
 - November 2009 March 2010
 - Due February 1, followed by evaluations
- Round 2 Draft MPA proposals
 - Developed by MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
 - March 2010 July 2010
 - Due date May 20, followed by evaluations
- Round 3 Final NCRSG MPA proposals
 - Developed by MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
 - August 2010 October 2010
 - Due date September 2, followed by evaluations



Final North Coast Recommendations

- MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force Recommendations
 - October 26-28, 2010
 - Informed by MLPA Master Plan Science Advisory Team, California Department of Fish and Game, and California State Parks evaluations
 - Input from NCRSG members and members of the public
- Joint California Fish and Game Commission and MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force Meeting
 - December 1, 2010
 - Task force delivers north coast recommendations to the commission
 - Start of the regulatory and environmental review processes



Incorporating External Arrays

Role of External MPA Arrays

- -Provide the NCRSG with information for developing Round 2 draft proposals
- Give NCRSG input on where community groups support or do not support MPAs
- NCRSG will receive feedback on how well external arrays meet SAT, DFG, and California State Parks guidance
- External MPA arrays will not continue independent of the NCRSG in Round 2, though the ideas may be incorporated into MPA proposals at any stage of the process

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External Array Proponents

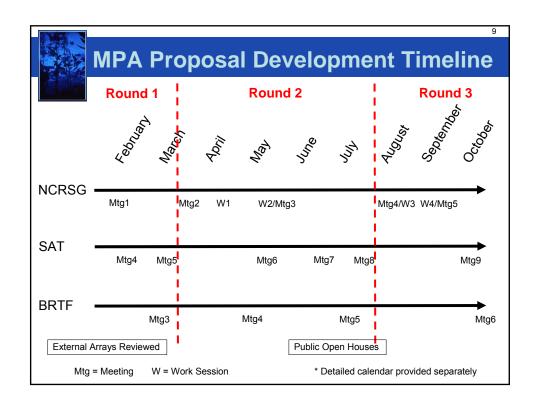
- Role of Those Who Developed External Arrays
 - Encouraged to continue contributing to the MPA planning process
 - Many external array proponents are members of the NCRSG, and may serve as a conduit for ideas from north coast communities
 - External array proponents not appointed to the NCRSG are encouraged to work through NCRSG members as well as submit written and verbal comments



Incorporating Additional Ideas

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- A "full MPA array" has broad geographic coverage and complete information for each proposed MPA
 - Individual MPAs or collections of MPAs that are less than a full array are still valuable to consider
 - These ideas will not be evaluated separately, but may still be incorporated into MPA proposals
 - MLPA Initiative staff will provide a summary compilation of any additional ideas submitted



Key NCRSG Dates		
Meeting #1 Meeting #2 Work Session #1 Work Session #2 Meeting #3 Meeting #4 Work Session #3 Work Session #4	February 8 – 9 March 24 – 25 April 20 – 21 May 19 May 20 August 4* August 5* September 1*	Round 2
Meeting #5	September 2*	



Meetings and Work Sessions

- NCRSG Meetings
 - Designed to facilitate communication to the full NCRSG
 - Key presentations from stakeholders and staff
 - Include formal public comment period
 - Recorded (audio and video) and webcast
- NCRSG Work Sessions
 - Designed to create a "safe space" for NCRSG members to generate MPA ideas and collaborate
 - Public may observe
 - No formal public comment period
 - Not recorded or webcast



Components of an MPA Proposal

- One to two page narrative rationale and explanation of region-wide MPA proposal
- Information for each MPA within the proposal
 - Boundaries
 - Designation type (classification)
 - Proposed allowed uses
 - Site-specific rationale
 - Design considerations and other information
- One page document outlining the consideration of existing MPAs
 - Retain, delete or modify



Final NCRSG Products

- Multiple, alternative MPA proposals that:
 - Meet the goals of the MLPA
 - Follow guidance from the BRTF, SAT, DFG,
 California State Parks, and MLPA Initiative staff
 - Consider input from communities and other members of the public
 - Consider the entire MLPA North Coast Study Region
 - Include recommendations for existing MPAs